

Taxes No 12.
R E M A R K S

ON
Dr. PRICE'S OBSERVATIONS

ON
Reversionary Payments, &c.

Particularly on the

NATIONAL DEBT;

And his proposed METHOD for discharging
the same.

To which is added,

A SCHEME for the making a sure Pro-
vision for the Posterity of private Persons,
at an easy Expence.

In a LETTER to a Friend of the DOCTOR'S.

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ON THE

REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD

IN THE

DEBTS



AND THE PROPOSED

TO WHICH IS ADDED

A SUMMARY OF THE HISTORY OF THE PRO-
VISION FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE NATIONAL
DEBT AS AN ONLY EXPENSE.

IN A LETTER TO A FRIEND OF THE DEBTOR.

BY

THOMAS T. BARNES, ESQ.

LONDON

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The subject is in its nature difficult
and in general not well understood; but
its surprising the authors of the many
have been better informed. However,

REMARKS

ON
Dr. PRICE'S OBSERVATIONS

ON
Reversionary Payments, &c.

DEAR SIR,

THE amiable character you have
always given your good friend
Dr. Price, inclined me to be-
stow some days in the perusal
of his excellent book lately published*.
His performance does great honour to
the character you gave, and I don't
know whether to admire most; the

* Observations on Reversionary Payments, &c.

B

strength

strength and clearness of his judgment, or the cordial friendship of his heart for the happiness of all mankind.

The subject is in its nature difficult, and in general not well understood; but 'tis surprizing the authors of the many schemes lately set on foot, should not have been better informed. However, 'tis very certain, the doctor has clearly demonstrated the insufficiency of the schemes of those societies to make good their engagements to the purchasers, and that they must finally end in a total loss and disappointment to the deluded expectants.

The most favourable construction that can be put upon their schemes is, that the members are themselves deceived for want of just and adequate principles to act upon; or perhaps for having adopted schemes at random, without any principles at all.

Supposing this to be the case, they are less culpable; tho' not less injurious to

to the purchasers, than if the bubble was premeditated and intended. The consequences are therefore truly alarming, and as the doctor observes, are of that importance to the public, as to require a parliamentary enquiry and correction.

Perhaps it might be a salutary measure, to prevent the forming of all such societies, calculated to draw money out of the purses of individuals by means of promised future advantages; 'till the principles they go upon have been fairly and openly submitted to the judgment of the public, and demonstrated to be capable of producing the advantages the purchasers are taught to expect. When that is fairly made out, may they go on and prosper, and meet with all due and fitting encouragement; and may they be numbered among the benefactors of mankind. For in this age of dissipation and boundless extravagance, when every one is for spending more than he has; he that contributes a mite towards saving a sinking people, or making provision for the comfortable support of individuals, should be ever remembered with respect.

I am persuaded the doctor's calculations are made with an exactness and precision worthy of himself. But the *truth* is, the subject is not only of a contingent nature and difficult in itself, but the *tables* of *observation*, upon which the whole reasoning depend, are far from being correct. The doctor seems to be in possession of the best tables ever published, and therefore it may be reasonably presumed, that his calculations and tables are as correct, as the nature of the subject will at present allow.

His conclusions therefore should be treasured up in every ones mind, as a friendly antidote against the malignity of a spreading contagion, which, either ignorance, or a much worse cause has rendered fashionable, and consequently nationally epidemical.

I shall begin with the consideration of the doctor's third chapter, of PUBLIC CREDIT, and the NATIONAL DEBT.

This

This is a subject, as the doctor rightly observes, in which the public is deeply interested.

He says, "the practice of raising the
 " necessary supplies for every public ser-
 " vice, by borrowing money on interest, to
 " be continued 'till the principal is dis-
 " charged, must be in the highest degree
 " detrimental to a kingdom, unless a plan
 " is settled, for putting its debts into a
 " regular and certain course of payment.
 " When this is not done, a kingdom by
 " such a practice, obliges itself to return
 " for every sum it borrows infinitely
 " greater sums; and, for the sake of a
 " present advantage, subjects itself to a
 " burden which must be always growing
 " heavier and heavier, 'till it becomes
 " insupportable."

This is a most undoubted fact, and operates the same on individuals, as the public. There seems to be no harm either in individuals, or the public's borrowing money at interest, when the necessity of their affairs require it. And
 'tis

'tis certainly equal and just, both in borrower and lender, that the lender should receive a reasonable satisfaction; that is, the current interest for the same. Such a transaction may be mutually beneficial; as when the borrower can employ the sum so as to pay the interest thereof, and leave something for himself. But if money is borrowed to pay debts already contracted, or to be inconsiderately lavish'd, which is too frequently the case; the affairs of the borrower seem hastening to desperation,

In such a situation, the salvation of the borrower, whether the public or an individual, depends upon the regulation of their income in such manner, that, their debts may be daily lessening, and they advancing towards a state of independence. If such measures are timely adopted all will be well; but if neglected 'till their debts are advanced beyond a certain degree of proportion between the produce of their funds, and the interest they pay, then all must end in inevitable bankruptcy and ruin.

What

What a pity it is that truly GLORIOUS
 ERA the REVOLUTION, should give
 birth to a measure that leads directly
 and unavoidably, to the utter ruin of
 the country it was meant to preserve.—
 GLORIOUS EXCHANGE! As Esau sold
 his birthright for a mess of pottage; so
 has England politicly exchanged its pro-
 perty for *English liberty*; that is, for
 ideal LIBERTY. A phantom, a chimera,
 a mere non-entity. Strange infatuation
 this, that a people who value themselves
 so much for the improvement they have
 made in every human science for half
 a century past, should barter their for-
 tunes, their blood, their lives in defence
 of a word, the mere sound of which is
 so fascinating to an Englishman's ear.
 Truly happy and glorious country! whose
 people are delighted with the melodious
 sounds of W—s and LIBERTY, and
 transported with the ravishing sight of
 broken windows, raw heads, bloody bones,
 and insulted majesty, by their supreme
 governors the mobility.

I would not be misunderstood in this,
 no man values real liberty more than
 myself;

myself; but I am sorry to say it, we have little more of it left than the bare sound; 'tis degenerated into noise, tumult and mobbing. Those that bawl the loudest for it are generally its greatest enemies, and mean no more than a freedom from all laws, human and divine, to follow their own inclinations to the utter ruin of all government and society.

In 1700 the national debt was 16 millions, in 1715 'twas 55 millions, a bold and noble stride for a single lady; many thanks to her truly honest and most faithful ministers. In 1740 'twas 47 millions; and at the commencement of the last war it stood at 72 millions. The aspiring greatness and unbounded spirit of our then prime minister, with a dexterity unheard off before, in a few years, raised the national debt from a sum much beyond which 'twas not thought possible it could be stretched to one more than twice as large, say from 72 to 148 millions. Away then with the feeble, languid efforts of your Harley's, Bolingbroke's, Walpole's, Baths, &c. Give place to your P--t's and F--x's, these
are

are your heroes of unbounded genius, who performed as much in a very few years as cost their predecessors near a century. 'Tis true, however, that for the trifling consideration of 78 millions, you have abundance of new acquired worlds on the other side the herring pond, which you may have for fetching, or transport yourselves, and enjoy them at your leisure upon the spot.

The present national debt it seems is above 140 millions; a terrible circumstance indeed! but great and formidable as this sum appears, it might be annihilated with great ease; if the time necessary for that purpose could be allowed.—This the doctor has made abundantly evident; but not the least hope can be derived from thence, because long before any material help can be got from any measure that requires a long term, we ourselves must infallibly be extinct; and of course the debt extinct too. Therefore, as this expedient fails us, tho' perhaps the only practicable one that could possibly prove effectual;

C

the

the doctor has pretty strongly insisted on another, which is, the raising a very large sum annually to be applied religiously towards the discharge of the debt.

A fund is proposed that will produce a million annually, which, together with the compound interest of the same, is to be applied to the discharge of the national debt. It must always be understood, when any sum is proposed to be raised annually to be applied in discharge of the national debt, and that it should operate in the same manner as money bearing compound interest, it always means, not only exclusive of the supplies raised for the current service of the year, but that also the same sums should be raised to discharge the interest, to the same amount it would have been if no such sums had been paid off. For otherwise, if we suppose a million a year to be paid off for 20 years; at the end of that time, supposing no fresh debt contracted, the debt would be diminished 20 millions only. But if the annual supplies are the same, as if no such annual discharge of debt was made, and the surplus permitted to accumulate,

mulate, or be still applied in discharge
 of the said debt, which is the same thing,
 still supposing the full annual supplies are
 raised and brought into the fund; in that
 case, instead of 20, near 30 millions
 would be discharged in the same time;
 and the same practice being continued for
 20 years more, the sum discharged would
 amount to 95 millions. And in 10 years
 more, say in 50 years in all, the whole
 national debt on this plan might be fully
 extinguished. These are facts, I believe,
 that cannot be controverted; and yet I
 cannot conceive that we are likely to be
 benefited by them. I say this with great
 deference to the doctor's judgment; but
 in this main point I am much afraid he
 has left us in the lurch. We seem to
 be much in the condition of the good
 woman who had got an excellent receipt
 for making puddings; but was entirely
 destitute of the necessary materials. She
 had neither flour, suet, butter, milk,
 plumbs, or eggs: A most melancholy
 situation where pudding was the thing
 desired! The doctor has chalked out an
 infallible *recipe* for paying the national
 debt; but, most unfortunately for us, the

essential ingredient is grown so scarce, that little can be spared for the desired purpose. I am afraid this is a truth too obvious to need demonstration. In 1700, the national debt was only 16 millions, from that time to the end of the last war, it increased at the rate of two millions per ann. upon an average. Now if the nation, at a time when its debts were inconsiderable, was so circumstanced as to be obliged to contract debts to the amount of near two millions per ann. which necessity has continued for 70 years, 'till at length the debt is grown so enormous, that it pays, I believe, about five millions per annum for interest of the same. If the nation contracted debts to such an amount, at a time when it had little interest to pay, how is a possibility to be conceived of raising a sum annually sufficient to discharge five millions of interest, and one million towards paying the present debt, besides the necessary supplies of the current year, and all extra supplies in cases of war, &c. ? — If the contracting a debt of two millions annually, when we had little interest to pay, was necessary, and the same necessity is supposed to continue,

tinue, then seven millions are as necessary now, as two were then, to which one million is to be added towards discharging the present debt, which together make eight millions.

If a method can be found out that will enable us to pay eight millions per ann. besides what may be sufficient for the supplies of the current year, and all contingent charges that may happen by means of a war, &c. then in 50 years, Sirs, we may hope to see the national debt annihilated. I appeal, with concern, to all the world, if there is room for so much as a possible hope. Six millions per ann. are manifestly necessary to discharge the present interest, and to be applied towards discharging the present debt. If it should be pretended the other two millions are not necessary, may I be permitted to ask, Why? Are the officers who fill the several departments of government, grown more moderate, frugal, and virtuous? Has that œconomy taken place which for some years past has been so fashionable for statesmen to talk of? And are our ministers, &c. really become wiser, more honest,

nest, and virtuous than formerly, notwithstanding the continued clamour of misapplication, and defaulters of unaccounted millions? However, it is a melancholy truth, that the national debt, at the end of the last war, was about 148 millions; and that it is but a few millions less at this time. 'Tis equally clear, that this debt was contracted in the times of the several wars we have been engaged in since the Revolution; for, in the intervals of war, the debt has been diminished, though in a small degree only. It therefore clearly follows, that our wars since that time has involved us in all the difficulties we suffer on account of such an amazing debt. How ridiculous then is it for England to boast the bravery and intrepidity of her people; and the mighty advantages gained over their enemies! Who can think of the mighty conquests; the extensive acquisitions of the last war, which brought the nation 70 millions more in debt, without feeling confusion, horror, and despair? Most brave England, who fights for freedom and glory, 'till her riches are wasted, her strength exhausted, her threats despised, herself beggared, undone, and no more.

more. In this vi w of things, what man in his senses would wish for a *war*. A few individuals may be enriched by it ; it may answer the sinister purposes of a commissary, a paymaster, the defaulter of millions unaccounted for ; or, finally, the base, the corrupt, the bribed patchers up of an *ignominious peace* ; who scruple not to betray the interest of their country, and barter it away for *French gold*. “ O, is
 “ there not some chosen curse, some hid-
 “ den thunder in the stores of heaven,
 “ red with uncommon wrath, to blast the
 “ man who owes his greatness to his coun-
 “ try’s ruin !”

Let us learn to be wise before we have parted with the last shilling. Let us be firm and resolute in defending our property, but careful not to wage war for trifles. When the injustice and audacity of our enemies force us to draw the sword, never let us sheath it ’till they have at least defrayed the whole expence they have occasioned. Hitherto, tho’ we have often been crowned with conquest in the field, we have been shamefully, we have been ruinously beat in the cabinet ; and have
 been

been stupidly taught to rejoice and glory in the means which have undone us. If these observations are just, the man who prevents a war, is a blessing, is the saviour of his country, and may be truly said to add duration to its existence. Let us learn to do justice to every man; let us view the present ministry in this light, and they shine with uncommon lustre. There's an almost infinite difference between preventing a war, and patching up a peace at the expence of many millions. We enter upon a war with pleasing avidity, and pay dearly for the indulgence of our folly.

But to return from this long digression. From what has been said I think it clearly appears, the national debt is not to be annihilated by the means proposed; and I am afraid our success would be little better, should all money be raised in future upon long annuities. 'Tis true, by this means a period would be put to their existence, and the time must come when they would be annihilated. But what relief would such a measure afford, if whilst one debt was running off, ten were contracting in its room. Such a measure affords

affords a *limit* to each particular debt, but the most necessary *limit* is to the number and extent of the debts. If, therefore, no money was to be borrowed, except on annuities, which are to terminate within a given period, the time would be ascertained when each debt would be discharged. But I cannot apprehend how such a practice would afford a *limit*, beyond which (as the doctor maintains) the national debts could not increase. Indeed, time (as he says) would *necessarily* discharge such debts, but if *the œconomy of the conductors of public affairs is not to be trusted to*, the national debt may continue to increase as long as faith and money are to be found. Suppose the present debt, or 140 millions, were proposed to be paid off by annuities determinable at a certain period; would this prevent the conductors of our affairs from borrowing twice that sum, determinable at the same or other certain periods, and consequently subjecting the nation to the payment of a debt or debts of double the amount of the present.—'Tis with diffidence I venture to differ from the doctor in opinion. I hope I do not misunderstand him; if I do, I once for all

D

humbly

humbly beg his pardon, and doubt not, but, as a gentleman of great candour, he will do me the justice to believe, that if it is a mistake, it is a real one, and not a wilful misrepresentation. For, I must own, wherever I cannot agree with the doctor, I am very apt to suspect my own judgment. If others should see these matters in the same light that I do, perhaps, by the doctor's favour, this may occasion our being set right.

The plan of a permanent SINKING FUND, is, as the doctor says, in many respects preferable to borrowing money on annuities. But this I have shewn to be impracticable; because the circumstances of the nation can by no means advance the sums necessary for that purpose.

The doctor says, "that, on this plan, "it is of little importance what interest a "state is obliged to give for money: For "the higher the interest, the sooner will "such a fund pay off the principal."

If by this is only meant that if the public borrows money at 8 per cent. a fund

fund established for the payment of it would do it upon the proposed plan in half the time as if it was borrowed at 4 per cent. and that the amount of the interest in either way would be the same: This, I conceive, would be true; but if the doctor means what his words seem to import, then I must beg his pardon again, for my understanding cannot keep pace with him; for it appears to me, the difference to the public would be great, indeed!

Every man that has £. 10,000 to pay, will readily perceive the difference between his having 10 or 20 years to pay it in; especially when the amount of the interest is to be the same; for the advantage of double the time appears to me to be equal to reducing the interest to half the sum: So that whether the public pays a high or low interest, is, I think, a matter of much importance to them. But, for fear of misrepresenting the doctor's meaning, permit me to give you his own words.

In p. 141 and 142, he says, "It follows from hence that reduction of interest

" tereft would, on this plan, be no great
 " advantage to a ftate. They would, in-
 " deed, lighten its *prefent* burdens; but
 " this advantage would be ballanced, by
 " the addition that would be made to its
 " *future* burdens, in confequence of the
 " longer time, during which it would be
 " neceffary to bear them, &c.

" In order to underftand this: let us
 " fuppofe, that a debt bearing an annual
 " intereft of five millions, is the whole
 " debt which a ftate can bear, without
 " being fo much oppreffed as to be near
 " finking. Let it, however, be fuppofed
 " to have ftill fome refources left, which
 " may enable it to bear, for 23 years to
 " come, this load, together with every
 " additional load, which, during this time,
 " may be neceffary to be thrown upon it.
 " —Let it further be fuppofed, that at this
 " time the ftate, urged by the fear of an
 " approaching bankruptcy, refolves upon
 " entring into fome effectual measures for
 " preferving itfelf.—Certain it is, that in
 " this cafe no measure *fo* effectual can be
 " purfued, as the eftablifhment of a *Sink-*
 " *ing Fund*, and fuch a faithful applica-
 " tion

"tion of it as I have explained. Let this,
 "then, be the measure entered upon, and
 "let the state be supposed capable of pro-
 "viding a fund, producing a million an-
 "nually. If all the debts bear interest
 "at 6 per cent. this fund would pay off
 "three-fifths of them within the time I
 "have mentioned, or in 23 years; and
 "the state might be saved. But if in
 "consequence of reductions, they bear
 "interest at no more than 3 per cent. the
 "same fund would not give the same re-
 "lief, in less than double that time, and,
 "therefore, a bankruptcy might prove
 "unavoidable."

The doctrine the doctor is labouring to
 establish, is, that, upon his plan, 'tis a
 matter of little importance whether a state
 pays 6 per cent. interest, or whether it
 pays 3. This I cannot reconcile to rea-
 son, nor does the above explanation of the
 doctor's at all help me out. That a mil-
 lion at 6 per cent. would in any given
 period accumulate to a much larger sum
 than a million at 3 per cent. is very evi-
 dent, and would discharge a much larger
 debt; but this cannot be all the doctor
 means,

means, for that is saying no more than 3 is not equal to 6. The insufficiency of the argument seems to consist in suffering a reduction of interest to operate on one side of the question, but not on the other.

Five millions is supposed to be the interest of the debt of a state, which is proposed to be paid off at the rate of an additional million per ann. We have seen above, the doctor's reasons why 'tis a matter of no importance to a state, whether it stands at 6 per cent. its supposed original interest, or whether it be reduced to 3 per cent. I am now to give my reasons for dissenting from him.

If the annual interest of the national debt amounts to five millions, when it pays an interest of 6 per cent. the reduction of the interest from 6 to 3 per cent. will reduce the annual interest from five to two and a half millions. And a fund, producing one million annually, will, reckoning interest at 3 per cent. together with the five millions annual produce, much sooner annihilate a debt, the interest of which, at 3 per cent. amounts to two
and

and a half millions, than a million at 6 per cent. employ'd for the same purpose, together with the five millions, would annihilate a debt, the interest of which, at 6 per cent, amounts to five millions per annum.

Perhaps it may not be amiss to place this in another light; in order to which I must first observe, that the power or ability of a people to raise the necessary supplies of a state, does not at all depend upon the rate of interest they may be obliged to pay, for the money they borrow. In length of time, indeed, paying a high interest will render more supplies necessary, which has a different tendency to that proposed. There is, then, certain bounds to the resources of all states, beyond which they cannot go without ruin. A state may be able to bear a burthen of 6 millions per ann. that would be crushed to atoms by 10 millions.—Let us suppose the whole amount of the debts of a state to be 140 millions; that by every means and contrivance, its resources can furnish no more than six millions per ann. towards paying the interest and discharging the debt. If
the

the state pays six per cent. interest for the whole debt, its fate is determined, its existence as a state must be short indeed! But if by any means interest can be reduced from 6 to 3 per cent. it appears in that case six millions per ann. would not only discharge the interest, but would annually diminish the debt. From this state of the affair it appears, that a state may be so circumstanced, that the reduction of interest may be of so much importance to it, that its very existence may depend upon it.

Let us suppose the whole debts of a state to amount to 200 millions; that the utmost amount of all its resources is eight millions per annum, and that it pays 6 per cent. per annum for its whole debt; let us then see what would be the condition of such a state in three years only.

The

The whole debt of the state	—	£ 200,000,000
One year's interest, at 6 per cent. is	—	12,000,000
	—	212,000,000
Deduct the neat amount of all its resources	—	8,000,000
	—	204,000,000
Amount of the debt the end of the 1st year	—	204,000,000
Second year's interest	—	12,240,000
	—	216,240,000
Deduct produce of the fund	—	8,000,000
	—	208,240,000
Amount of the second year	—	208,240,000
Third year's interest	—	12,494,400
	—	220,734,400
Deduct produce of the fund	—	8,000,000
	—	212,734,400
Amount the third year	—	212,734,400
Deduct the debt at the beginning	—	200,000,000
	—	12,734,400
Increase in three years	—	£ 12,734,400

From this short account it clearly appears, that a state, circumstanced as above, in the short space of three years, would suffer an increase of debt to the amount of twelve millions, seven hundred thirty four thousand four hundred pounds, and consequently in a few years more than twenty, would double its debt; that is, would increase it to 400 millions.

Suppose the above to be the melancholy condition of a state, and its managers fore-

From

E

see

see the dreadful catastrophe that must inevitably ensue, if some proper measures are not immediately adopted.

What is to be done then, to preserve it from the impending ruin? Its funds are already at their utmost stretch, no further relief is to be had from thence. Let the measure then be to reduce the interest from 6 to 3 per cent. and then let us see what change in affairs this will make in three years, as before.

The whole debt is supposed	—	£ 200,000,000
First year's interest, at 3 per cent. is	—	6,000,000
		<hr/>
		206,000,000
Deduct the produce of the fund	—	8,000,000
		<hr/>
Amount at the end of the first year	—	198,000,000
Second year's interest is	—	5,940,000
		<hr/>
		203,940,000
Deduct the produce of the fund	—	8,000,000
		<hr/>
Amount at the end of the 2d year	—	195,940,000
Third year's interest	—	5,878,200
		<hr/>
		201,818,200
Deduct produce of the fund	—	8,000,000
		<hr/>
Amount at the end of three years	—	193,818,200
Which deducted from the original debt	—	200,000,000
Leaves the sum the debt is diminished in	—	<hr/>
three years	—	£ 6,181,800
		<hr/>
		From

From whence it follows, that the whole debt of the state, by such a constant application of the fund, would in less than fifty years be quite annihilated.

When the debts of a state are become so exorbitant, that the utmost stretch of its ability will not annually furnish sums sufficient to discharge its interest, its poverty must daily increase. In this situation there are but two possible methods of relief: The first is a measure that every honest man shudders to think of; you'll readily see I mean a sponge; which, I hope, the honour, prudence, and care of the government will for ever render unnecessary. The other measure is the reduction of interest to such a pitch as its funds can discharge, together with a certain overplus. A constant, permanent application of the funds for this purpose, must necessarily diminish the debt, and in time would totally annihilate it.

Whatever measures are taken for the relief of a necessitous state, they will for ever prove ineffectual, unless the amount of its income exceeds its outgoings. On

such a footing time will overcome all difficulties. But any measure that does not produce this effect, will afford no relief, how specious soever it may appear.

From the long quotation I gave some pages back, I cannot help thinking but that the doctor has some how blended the funds, which furnish the supplies, with the rate of interest the state may pay, or at least makes the former to depend upon the latter, and to be affected by it; whereas, they are as distinct as any two things whatsoever. The amount of a fund may be whatever the legislature pleases, provided they keep within the bounds of the ability of the state. Such a fund may be permanent, and furnish one or two millions per ann. whether interest be at 6, or reduced to 3 per cent, it does not alter the fund.

How are we to understand these words of the doctor, then? p. 142. "Let the
 "state be supposed capable of providing a
 "fund producing a million annually. If
 "all the debts bear interest at 6 per cent.
 "this fund would pay off three-fifths of
 "them

“ them within the time I have mentioned,
 “ or in 23 years, and the state might be
 “ saved. But if in consequence of re-
 “ ductions, they bear interest at no more
 “ than 3 per cent. the *same fund* would
 “ not give the same relief in less than
 “ double that time, and therefore a bank-
 “ ruptcy might be unavoidable.” That
 the interest of a million, or any other sum,
 at 6 per cent. would accumulate as fast
 again as the same sum at 3 per cent. is
 undoubtedly true; but this is not the
 thing in question.—The question is, whe-
 ther the reducing the interest of the pub-
 lic debt, is a matter of importance to the
 state or not? or, in other words, whether
 any advantage would accrue to the public
 by such a reduction, and whether then such
 advantage would be in proportion to the
 terms of the reduction?—Let it be re-
 member’d, the fund is the same, viz. a
 million in both rates of interest. Let the
 debt be what sum you please, if you add
 the interest to it at 6 per cent. and deduct
 the fund, the remaining debt would as
 much exceed the remainder of the same
 debt with its interest at 3 per cent. with
 the same fund deducted; as the interest
 of

of the sum at 6 per cent. exceeds the interest of the same at 3 per cent. This clearly appears in p. 24 and 25.

Again, the doctor seems to think that the discharging a debt in a shorter time, by means of a high rate of interest, may be an advantage to the public, though the disbursements should be the same. See his example, p. 340. where he makes it appear, that a million borrowed at 3 per cent. would, upon his plan, require 81 years to discharge it in; whereas the same sum borrowed at 6 per cent. would be discharged in 41 years. The disbursements are nearly the same. Can it admit a doubt to which method to give the preference? Ask any man who has a debt of 10,000 l. to pay, whether he prefers the paying of it in five years, at the rate of 2000 l. per ann. or whether he had rather pay it in ten years, at 1000 l. per ann. the amount of interest in both cases being the same. I will answer for him. Every man would chuse 10 years to pay it in, not only in point of convenience, but interest also; as the difference would be the amount of one half the sum for the difference of the times

times of payment. If reductions of interest lightens the present burdens of a state, I cannot apprehend, that "this advantage would be balanced by the addition that would be made to its future burdens in consequence of the longer time, during which it would be necessary to bear them." The length of time operates differently in my opinion; it would be more convenient, and greatly more advantageous to the public. Let us place this argument in another point of view, conformably to the doctor's example, in p. 340. But first let me observe, that the *fund* must be supposed to produce a certain sum to be applied to the discharge of the debts of the state, without any kind of regard to the interest, the state may pay for the debt it owes. A fund producing a million per ann. will be neither more nor less than a million, whether the debt it is to be applied to discharge, pays an interest of 3 or 6 per cent. it can make no difference in the produce of the fund. I mention this again, because I think it is the cause of the error I complain of.

Let

Let us suppose, then, the state has a debt of one million to discharge, which it proposes to do by a fund which produces 66,000 per ann. the question then is, Whether it is not more beneficial to the public to pay only 3 per cent. interest instead of 6, and what would be the disbursements at each rate of interest? What would be the difference in the sums, and time requisite to pay the debt?

A million would, in 41 years, at 6 per cent. compound interest, amount to £ 10,900,000

An annual payment of 66,000, would, in 41 years, at 6 per cent. comp. interest, amount to 10,890,000

And £ 66,000, multiplied by 41, the number of years, the disbursements amount to 2,706,000

Let us now examine the same at 3 per cent.

A million in 21 years, at 3 per cent. compound interest, would amount to only 1,860,000

An annual payment of £ 66,000, would, in 21 years,

at

at 3 per cent. compound interest, amount to — 1,890,000

And the disbursements being £ 66,000, multiplied by 21 years, amount to — 1,386,000

which being deducted from £ 2,706,000, leaves 1,320,000, the difference of the disbursements between an interest of 3 and 6, and per cent.

If I understand the question, and have made no material error in the calculation, the difference to the public between paying 6 per cent. and 3 per cent. is much more than I at first conceived. The difference between the doctor's opinion and mine, arises from his proportioning the income of the fund to the rate of interest, to which it is in no sense related. If the state has a million to pay, and has a fund which produces £ 66,000 per ann. surely no good reason can be assigned why it should not be applied, whether the state pays an interest at the rate of 6 or 3 per cent. But if it should be resolved to pay no more than £ 33,000 per ann. towards discharging the debt, in that case, twice

the time would be necessary to discharge it, but the public would neither lose nor gain by it, provided the remaining £ 33,000 was used so as to afford a compound interest at 3 per cent.

From the calculations in p. 32. it appears, that if a state owes a debt of a million, for which it pays an interest of 6 per cent. and that it has a fund which produces annually £ 66,000, which being applied in discharge of the same, it will require 41 years to compleat it. But if the state should by any means reduce the interest from 6 to 3 per cent. the same fund would then discharge the debt in 21 years, which is little more than half the time, and also at very little more than half the expence; for 6 per cent. would require £ 2,706,000, and 3 per cent. no more than £ 1,386,000 to be disbursed.

Our present debt is truly alarming, and must fill every thinking man with the most anxious apprehensions. Such another war, and such another peace as the last, would, I fear, determine our fate! There would be no room left for doubt;
we

we should feel the most painful certainty ; yet dreadfully certain as it is, no measures are attempted to ward off the fatal blow.

The doctor, indeed, has clearly pointed out an infallible method, had we time to be benefited by its operations ; but I am afraid we are much too near the fatal period. To remedy the want of more time, he proposes the sums should be much larger than otherwise they need to be. Most excellent doctrine, could such mighty sums be found, and would the conductors of our affairs set themselves about this great work with resolution, wisdom and HONESTY.

But where is the man who will stand forth in this corrupt age, and dare say, I will save ye. As providence has placed me near the throne of my royal master, as it is my duty, so shall it be my earnest and unceasing endeavour to stem the mighty torrent of corruption and venality. No longer shall lawless power trample upon the rights of a brave and generous people. No longer shall the sweat and labour of the industrious be squandered on the fawn-

ing Parasite and modern Court BEGGAR, commonly called a PENSIONER. A PENSIONER! who is not become necessitous through misfortune, is a MONSTER in society, and must possess a soul meaner, and baser, than the dirt he treads on. To reward the brave man, who has spent his youth, his strength, his ALL, in the service of his country, is virtuous, is noble; but to oppress the people, to lavish *pensions* on the wicked perpetrators of dirty jobs, too often already opulent, is the dirtiest work of administration. From which good Lord deliver us!

Mr. Hume wrote like one inspired, when he said, "Either the nation must destroy public credit, or public credit will destroy the nation." That we have made so ill an use of credit, is indeed a dreadful thing; but I have long been of opinion, if there had never been any such thing as public or private credit, except for the necessities of life, it would have been immensely better for this nation. Had credit never had a being, there never could have been any debt; the fatal effects of credit, which now threatens our overthrow, had then

then never existed. The nation could surely have shifted as well without it for four-score years last past, as it had done for centuries before. As to private credit, it's not less pernicious in its effects, than public credit; this will seem strange to many, who esteem credit essentially necessary to a trading, to a commercial nation; but reason, aided by long experience and constant observation, has convinced me of the contrary. I am afraid we have not, at most, above ten honest men to one knave; the latter is always ready to take all advantages of the former, and to laugh at the honesty and credulity of the man whose self and family he has ruined.—To enumerate the mischiefs that have been done by credit, would take up more time, and more room, than I have to spare: But I must beg leave to mention some few particulars. What is it but credit that enables the prodigal tradesman to keep his country house, his brace of hunters, and perhaps his carriage, when, at the same time, he is not worth a shilling; nay, often, when he is thousands worse than nothing? What is it but credit that has enabled so many thousands to go into trade, without any capital of their

their own? There is not a city, town, or village in England, but abounds with instances of this sort, and perhaps a greater evil cannot happen to a manufacturing country. This is the fruitful source of most of the mischiefs we complain of. It can be no wonder that labour, provisions, and almost every thing else, are dear, if we consider the great metamorphosis the manners of our people have underwent within 40 or 50 years past. From a race of industrious, labouring people, who earned their bread by the sweat of their brow, not only for the maintenance and support of themselves and families, but also for the support of the kingdom in general, we are degenerated into indolence and idleness, seeking support and maintenance without toil or labour; that is, by craft and artifice. Such are all those who enter into, and carry on the business of buying and selling without a capital of their own. Such, for the most part, are living upon the industry of other people, and too frequently it ends in the ruin of the too credulous tradesmen with whom they deal. All such have deserted the post allotted them, which is the labouring oar. Within
the

the time above-mentioned; I am well satisfied our labouring people are decreased one third in number; perhaps, should we include emigrants, we might fairly say one half, whilst the indolent and unworking people are increased nearly in the same proportion.

It is very easy to apprehend what must be the consequence of a large increase of consumption, when the means of providing supplies necessary for such consumption are so much decreased, and are daily decreasing. Nothing less than a great advance of price in all the necessaries of life, in proportion to the increase of demand on the one hand, and the deficiency of the means of making provision in proportion to the demand, on the other. These are unavoidable consequences, and operate universally; the prices of all things being higher or lower, as the quantities are less or more in proportion to the demand.

Every petty shopkeeper, whose returns are very small, ranks at least with people of small fortunes and estates; often, indeed, their expences are double, and too often

often treble what they can afford. Every wholesale dealer has experienced enough of this to give him many a painful hour. But it may be said, can trade be carried on without credit? I answer it may, much better than with it. If there was no law to recover debts in trade, except for the necessaries of life purchased by the consumer, there would be no credit. A credit given to the honest and deserving poor, and others whom misfortunes has rendered necessitous, participates a good deal of the nature of *charity*, and it would be cruel to prevent them such temporary reliefs. But even a credit given to such, should be under certain restrictions and regulations, otherwise it would soon be greatly abused. What a vast number of working tradesmen and labouring people have we in this metropolis, who earn from 12s. to 30s. per week, when they work six days in the week, who themselves are half naked, their wives and children half starved, and all this by means of an injurious credit given them at a neighbouring alehouse, where they drink up all they earn, and as much more as the alehouse-keeper will

trust

trust them. By this means they are ever kept necessitous to the last degree.

The next above these are the master workmen that employ them; too many of these are kept indigent all their time by the same means, 'till at length death releases them, and leaves their families in great distress. By means of credit they are tempted to live above their income, which otherwise they could not do, and therefore, though it may be right to allow all such a credit for the necessaries of life, that credit should extend but for a short time; which would prevent their launching out to the unreasonable lengths they do. A man, whose business brings him in £ 50, 60, or £ 100 per ann. must, if he could have but a short credit, live according to his income; but, by means of credit, he assumes a station in life he has no right to, and imposes upon the world by appearing a man of fortune, when at the same time he is no better than a robber and a cheat; for such every man must be deemed who acquires credit by false appearances.

Every shopkeeper and dealer, in that case, must confine himself to his capital; a man of large capital might deal largely; one with a small capital must confine himself to the limits of the same; and he that has no capital at all (the number of which is great indeed!) must betake himself to the portion assigned him. Every tradesman then must contrive to live so as not to exceed his income. But now we daily see people of this sort living at an immoderate expence, which they impudently carry on many years, 'till at length they blow up, and pay their injured and much abused creditors perhaps a crown in the pound.

In short, *credit* is the true and genuine source of most of the evils we feel as a trading people: 'Tis the parent of expence and extravagance; it tempts many laborious people from their useful employment, to spend their time in sloth and destructive ease, to the ruin of themselves, to the great loss of their creditors, and to the unspeakable injury of the public.—'Tis this that fills our jails with debtors, and the nation with bankrupts. Few care what they
spend,

spend, as they can have what they desire for asking for; the day of payment is at a distance; no body knows what may happen ere that comes; prudence therefore gives place to folly, industry and frugality to idleness and profligacy, and, at length, virtue and honesty to vice and villainy; and, from a people respectable for laborious industry, and modest, plain frugality, we are degenerated into sloth, indolence, and a most unjust affectation of gentility, which cannot be supported but at the expence of faith, truth, and honesty, and the villainous expenditure of what we have not the least right to, which undoubtedly is the worst kind of robbery and plunder, mankind are capable of putting in practice.

The natural conclusion to be drawn from these observations, is, that we are hastening fast towards a state of general bankruptcy, both public and private; and that there is little time to be lost, if the warding off the blow is worth attempting; which must be submitted to the great managers and directors of the fate of this country.

Private persons can do little more than wish well to the state they are subjects of; but as individuals, they may, by small beginnings, lay the foundation of what, in future ages, may be as useful and advantageous, as extensive and amazing.—This is a subject, my good friend, we have often amused ourselves with, viz. the possibility of accumulating a surprizing sum for the benefit of posterity, from the present advance of a small sum to be disposed of so as to produce a perpetual compound interest.

I have, at length, drawn up a PLAN for establishing a permanent growing FUND, which I beg leave to submit to your consideration and correction: It probably may require much alteration and amendment; however, it may serve to furnish some materials for your better judgment to work upon, and I hope it may be the means of carrying some such plan into execution. Perhaps your good friend the doctor will not, cannot refuse us his assistance, to help us to make it as unexceptionable and perfect as we can hope.

To

To the proposals I have annexed a scheme of calculation, by which it will at sight appear, how much the fund would accumulate at any period from 5 to 500 years, upon the terms proposed. But it will probably accumulate much faster than the scheme sets forth, as I hope the allowances for insolvent members will not amount to near so much as I have set apart for their use.

Perhaps it may be an objection, that the members (insolvent ones excepted) are to receive no benefit for so very long a term; but it should be remember'd, the design of the plan proposed is for the advantages to spring from a small beginning; but if any of the subscribing or original members themselves are desirous of sharing the dividends, they may do it by advancing 20 or 40 guineas instead of 10, and then they may begin to divide at one half, or one fourth of the term proposed.

As the proposed advantages lie remote, and cannot on any plan operate beneficially, without allowing time sufficient for that purpose, I thought ten guineas annually
as

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as

as much as most people would care to lock up upon the occasion ; but such to whom a few hundred pounds is a sum of small moment, they may advance a sum sufficient to bring the scheme into play in a very few years.—Indeed, it may be varied many ways to accommodate it to the approbation and circumstances of such as may incline to promote a scheme of this kind.

As to the number of members, I have pitched upon 20. My reason for so doing is, that I think the perpetuity would be better guarded by that number, than by a less ; because it would be easier for a small number to be brought to agree to divide the fund among them, before it had wrought the intended effect. That being once compassed, there would be little temptation to it, because their income would be such as to put them above the reach of necessity.

It may be said, that any single person pursuing the same means with the money he advances, would reap all the advantages proposed by this scheme, without the trouble

trouble of being concerned with others, which is very true; but the difficulty is, how to preserve such sum in the accumulating state proposed. Your son or grandson may think £ 1000 applied to his own use, would be infinitely preferable to ten times that sum to his grandson. His maxim may be, let every one take care of himself; and it is more than ten to one but this would happen in a few generations.

*“ One age a reservoir to keep and spare;
“ The next a fountain spouting thro’ the
beir.”*

The advantages of a society for such a purpose, above the same scheme put in practice by one, two, or three persons only, is, that they become guardians and protectors for each other. And though one, two, or three giddy, unthinking young fellows might be mad enough to throw away 10 or 20,000 pounds at a horse race, cock match, or a game at hazard, &c. 'tis morally impossible, that out of 20 members enough should not be found

found, who had good sense and virtue
sufficient to guard the rest from ruin.

I will not trouble you with any further
Remarks, but beg leave to refer you to
the plan subjoined, and wishing it the de-
sired success.

I am, Dear Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

July 23, 1771.

A M I C U S.

[02]

A PLAN for establishing a growing Fund of perpetual Increase and Security for the certain and unalienable Benefit of Posterity.

1. **T**HE society to consist of twenty members.

2. Each member to advance and pay into the hands of the treasurer, for the time being, ten guineas annually for ten years certain, at the commencement of the year.

3. That the money so raised, as often as it shall amount to £ 100, shall be invested in such of the public funds, or laid out upon mortgages, &c. as shall be agreed upon by a majority of the members.

4. That the sums accumulating from the interest of the money so invested shall be constantly added to the principal, and, as often as it amounts together to £ 100, shall likewise be invested in the public funds, &c. in the same manner as the money first subscribed.

H

5. That

5. That no deduction whatsoever be made during the first five years from the commencement.

6. That if any member shall refuse or neglect to pay into the hands of the treasurer his annual quota, within ten days from the day fixed for that purpose, he shall forfeit his share and interest therein, and all future benefit that might accrue therefrom, except such member shall become insolvent after five years, and before the beginning of the 10th; in that case, such insolvent member shall be entitled to such an annuity for his life, as the members or major part thereof shall order, provided it be agreeable to the rules agreed on for the management of the affairs of the society.

7. From the 5th to the 50th year, one half of the interest arising from the fund annually, shall be applied towards the relief of insolvent members, or so much of the said half as may be necessary to pay such insolvent members £ 25 per ann. each; the surplus, if any, to go to augment the fund.

8. That no insolvent member shall at any time be allowed more than £ 25
per

per ann. That from and after the 50th year, £ 100 shall be set apart for the relief of the insolvent members, instead of half the interest. If the number does not exceed four, that sum, divided amongst them equally, will be £ 25 to each person. If the number falls short of four, as suppose it to be two only, then there will be £ 50 to be added to the fund: but should the number exceed four, then the £ 100 to be equally divided among such insolvent members.

9. In this manner the affairs of the society are to go on, 'till it has been established 100 years; by that time the sum accumulated will be sufficient to divide £ 25 yearly to each member; therefore, from 100 to 110, that sum to be divided to each member annually, and then the insolvent members will be on a footing with the rest, and of course their former allowance must cease.

10. The next 20 years, viz. from 110 to 130, the members to divide £ 30 each, per ann.

11. The next 20 years, viz. from 130 to 150, to divide 50 per ann.

12. The next 10 years, viz. from 150 to 160, to divide 60 per ann.

13. The next 20 years, viz. from 160 to 180, to divide 80 per ann.

14. The next 20 years, viz. from 180 to 200, to divide 100 per ann.

15. The next 20 years, viz. from 200 to 220, to divide 200 per ann.

16. From 220 to 240, to divide 300 per ann.

17. From 240 to 260, to divide 500 per ann.

18. From 260 to 300, say 40 years, to divide £ 1000 per ann.

19. No member to be at liberty, to sell or dispose of his share or shares, 'till the society has been established 100 years, unless to the society.

20. No member to be permitted to take any part of his share or shares, or any money in consideration thereof, otherwise than is provided by dividends to be made as aforesaid.

21. The said fund to be and continue the joint, undivided property of the said members, in no wise subject to dissolution or division; but after the expiration of 100 years, each member to be at liberty to assign,

assign, sell, or mortgage, his income or interest, and share or shares, subject, nevertheless, to the rules, covenants, and agreements of the society; but not to disturb or molest the capital of the said joint society, contrary to the rules, covenants and agreements, and the intention and meaning of the same.

22. The share or shares of any member or members in the said fund, shall not be liable to the payment or satisfaction of any debt or debts contracted by, or owing from such member or members, otherwise than to such person or persons to whom such member or members shall duly empower or authorise to receive his or their dividend or dividends, when the same shall be in course of payment, in the same manner such member or members might have done; but no sum or sums, in respect of any share or shares of capital, shall be paid on any account whatever.

23. That if this society should subsist longer than the term of 300 years, as above-mentioned, that the half yearly or yearly dividends to be then thereafter made, shall never, on any occasion or pretence whatever, exceed one half of the yearly income;

income; the other half to be constantly added to the fund to augment the same.

24. The dividends to be made only once a year, 'till the sum arises to £ 60 per ann. then, and for ever after, to be made twice in each year.

25. The members themselves to transact the business of the society without fee or reward; out of whom shall be chosen annually a treasurer and two assistants, who shall keep the books of the society in a clear, plain, and perfect manner, that the circumstance of their affairs may appear upon inspection.

26. That five members shall, at all times, constitute a board; and that all transactions made or done with a less number, shall be totally void and of no effect.

27. All securities whatsoever to be deposited in an iron chest, or some secure place made for the purpose of safety; which chest, &c. shall have five locks and keys, three of which to be kept by the treasurer and two assistants, and the other two by two other members.

28. That

28. That a fair copy of their ledger shall be kept, and deposited in their chest, or other place of safety.

29. That if any disputes shall arise, respecting the affairs of the society, the whole of the members shall be convened, and ten days notice at least given of their meeting. If fifteen appear on the occasion, it shall be deemed a full board, and they may proceed to business, and the question shall be determined by the majority: But if an even number appear above fifteen, and they divide equally, the treasurer then shall have the casting voice.

A SCHEME

A SCHEME OF CALCULATION;

SHEWING,

What a Subscription of Twenty Persons, at Ten Guineas each Person, per ann. for ten Years, would amount to, at different Periods, from five to five hundred Years, Compound Interest, at Four per cent. per ann. after deducting Annuities, increasing at different Periods.

TWENTY Members, at ten Guineas each, is £ 210, which, at 4 per cent. compound interest, would, in five years, amount to

£ 1136 0

The interest of this sum amounts yearly to £ 45. Suppose we allow one half the interest for the relief of insolvent members, and the other half to accumulate for the increase of the fund, £ 22 10, or half the sum, would, in five years more, amount to

121 0

Five years further subscription would be

1136 0

Amount in ten years

£ 2393 0

The interest of which sum is £ 95 per ann. allow one half for insolvent members, the other to accumulate, £ 47 10 then will, in five years more, that is, at the end of 15 years from the beginning, amount to

257 0

Amount in 15 years

£ 2650 0

Amount



Amount in 15 years will be	£ 2650 0
Interest of this sum per ann.	
is	£ 106 0
Half to insolvent members,	
half to accumulate,	53 0 which
In five years will produce	286 0
Amount in 20 years	2936 0
Interest of this sum per ann.	
is	117 0
Half to insolvent members,	
half to accumulate,	58 10 which
In five years will produce	316 0
Amount in 25 years,	3252 0
Interest of this sum per ann.	
is	130 0
Half to insolvent members,	
half to accumulate,	65 0 which
In five years will produce	351 0
Amount in 30 years will be	3603 0
Interest of this sum is	144 0
Half to insolvent members,	
half to accumulate,	72 0 which
In five years will produce	389 0
Amount in 35 years,	3992 0
Interest of this sum is	159 0
Half to insolvent members,	
half to accumulate,	79 10 which
In five years will produce	430 0
Amount in 40 years	4422 0
Interest on this sum is	176 0
Half to insolvent members,	
half to accumulate,	88 0 which
In five years will produce	476 0
Amount in 45 years	4898 0

Am. in 45 years brought up	£ 4898 0
Interest on this sum is	£ 196 0
Half to insolvent members,	
half to accumulate,	98 0 which
In five years will produce	530 0
Amount in 50 years	5428 0
Interest on this sum	217 0 of which
£ 100 to insolvent members,	
the remainder to accum.	100 0
In five years will produce	117 0 which
Amount in 55 years	633 0
Interest of this sum is	6061 0
£ 100 to insolvent members,	242 0 of which
the remainder to accum.	100 0
In five years will produce	142 0 which
Amount in 60 years	768 0
Interest of this sum is	6829 0
Of which £ 100 to insolv.	273 0
members	100 0
To accumulate	173 0
Which in 5 years will prod:	936 0
Amount in 65 years	7765 0
Interest of this sum is	310 0
Of which to insolv. memb.	100 0
Which in five years will	210 0 produce
Amount in 70 years	1136 0
Interest of this sum is	8901 0
Of which to insolv. memb.	356 0
In five years will produce	100 0
Amount in 75 years	256 0 which
	1385 0
	10286 0

Am. in 75 years brought over £ 10286 0

Interest of this sum is £ 411 0

Of which to insolv. memb. 100 0

311 0 which

In five years will produce

1682 0

Amount in 80 years

11968 0

Interest of this sum is

478 0

Of which to insolv. memb. 100 0

378 0 which

In five years will produce

2045 0

Amount in 85 years

14013 0

Interest of this sum is

560 0

Of which to insolv. memb. 100 0

460 0 which

In five years will produce

2488 0

Amount in 90 years

16501 0

Interest of this sum is

660 0

Of which to insolv. memb. 100 0

560 0 which

In five years will produce

3029 0

Amount in 95 years

19530 0

Interest on this sum is

781 0

Of which to insolv. memb. 100 0

681 0 which

In five years will produce

3684 0

Amount in 100 years

23214 0

Interest on this sum is

918 0 from

This sum deduct £ 500,

which will make a divi-

vend of £ 25 to each

member, then £ 428 re-

mains to accumulate,

suppose for ten years,

in that time will produce

5136 0

Amount in 110 years

28350 0

Am. in 110 years bro't over $\pounds 28,350$

Interest of this sum is $\pounds 1134$ from

This sum deduct $\pounds 600$ or

30 a share $\underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ 600

In ten years will produce

Amount in 120 years

Interest on this sum is

Ded. 20 shares at $\pounds 30$ each

In ten years will produce

Amount in 130 years

Interest on this sum is

Ded. 20 shares at $\pounds 50$ is

In ten years will produce

Amount in 140 years

Interest on this sum is

Deduct as before

In ten years will produce

Amount in 150 years

Interest on this sum is

Ded. 20 sh. at $\pounds 60$ each, is

In ten years will produce

Amount in 160 years

Interest on this sum is

Ded. 20 sh. at $\pounds 80$ each, is

Which in 20 years will prod.

Amount in 180 years

534 which

6408

34,758

1390

600

790 which

9480

44,238

1769

1000

769 which

9278

53,466

2138

1000

1138 which

13,656

67,122

2684

1200

1484 which

17,808

84,930

3399

1600

1799

53,556

138,486

Am. in 180 years b'to't over $\pounds 138,486$

Interest on this sum is $\pounds 5589$

Ded. 20 sh. at $\pounds 100$ p. ann. 2000

3539

Which in 20 years will prod. $105,356$

Amount in 200 years $243,842$

Interest on this sum is 9753

Deduct 20 sh. at $\pounds 200$ each 4000

5753

Which in 20 years will prod. $171,126$

Amount in 220 years $414,968$

Interest on this sum is $16,598$

Deduct 20 sh. at $\pounds 300$ each 6000

10,598 which

In 20 years will produce $315,502$

Amount in 240 years $730,470$

Interest of this sum is $29,218$

Deduct 20 sh. at $\pounds 500$ each $10,000$

19,218

Which in 20 years will prod. $572,119$

Amount in 260 years $1,302,589$

Interest on this sum is $52,103$

Ded. 20 sh. at $\pounds 1000$ each $20,000$

32,103

Which in 20 years will prod. $955,706$

Amount in 280 years $2,258,295$

Interest on this sum is $90,331$

Deduct as above $20,000$

70,331

Which in 20 years will prod. $2,093,753$

Amount in 300 years $4,352,048$

From hence it appears, that each of the representatives of the original members, will, at the end of the above term, be possessed of £ 1000 per ann, and a share of stock amounting to £ 217,602.

By this time I think I have made a very ample provision for you: A much better than most people have made for their dearest children: I might therefore very satisfactorily leave you in quiet possession of so fair a fortune, acquired with the highest degree of reputation.

But if you please, we will still carry our calculation a couple of centuries further. If I mistake not greatly, your riches by that time will be such as to almost puzzle and bewilder imagination.

My scheme is an accumulating one, and I am an enemy to profuseness: I shall therefore only allow you £ 1000 per ann, on each share. With this allowance then let us proceed.

The amount in 300 years is £ 4,352,048

The interest on that sum for

one year, amounts to £ 174,081

Ded. 20 sh. at £ 1000 each 20,000

154,081

Which in 50 years will prod.

23,522,005

Amount in 350 years

27,874,053

The interest of this sum is

1,114,962

Ded. 20 sh. at £ 1000 each

20,000

1,094,962

Which in 50 years will prod.

167,156,899

Amount in 400 years

195,030,951

Amount in 400 years is		£ 195,030,958
The interest of this sum is	£ 7,801,238	
Deduct 20 sh. at £ 1000	20,000	

Which in 50 years will prod.		<u>1187,883,793</u>
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Amount in 450 years		1382,914,744
Interest of this sum is	55,316,589	
Deduct as above	<u>20,000</u>	

Which in 50 years will prod.	55,296,589	<u>8441,577,276</u>
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Amount in 500 years		<u>9824,492,020</u>
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Which is nearly five hundred millions a share; or so much to the representative of each original subscriber.

THE END.

Amount in 100 years is
 The interest of this sum is £ 7,801.18
 Deduct 20,000 at £ 1000

Which in 50 years will be of

Amount in 150 years
 Interest of this sum is £ 27,810.10
 Deduct as above

Which in 50 years will be of
 Amount in 200 years
 £ 44,775.20
 £ 81,410.30



Which is nearly five hundred millions a year, or 10 years
 is the representative of each original subscriber.

THE END

